

Fawcett Publications

NOVEMBER

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT

NO. 57
10¢

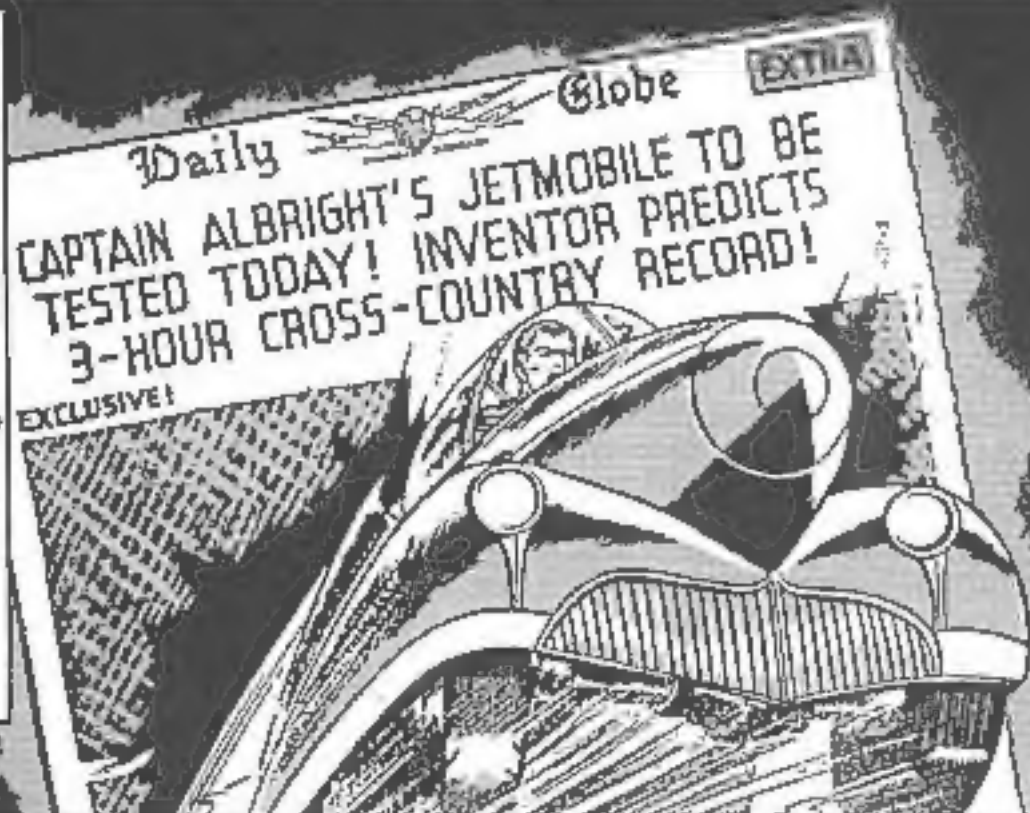


DANGER *ZOOOM* ACROSS THE PATH OF THE SKY-LORD!

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT

THE CROSS-COUNTRY CRIME!

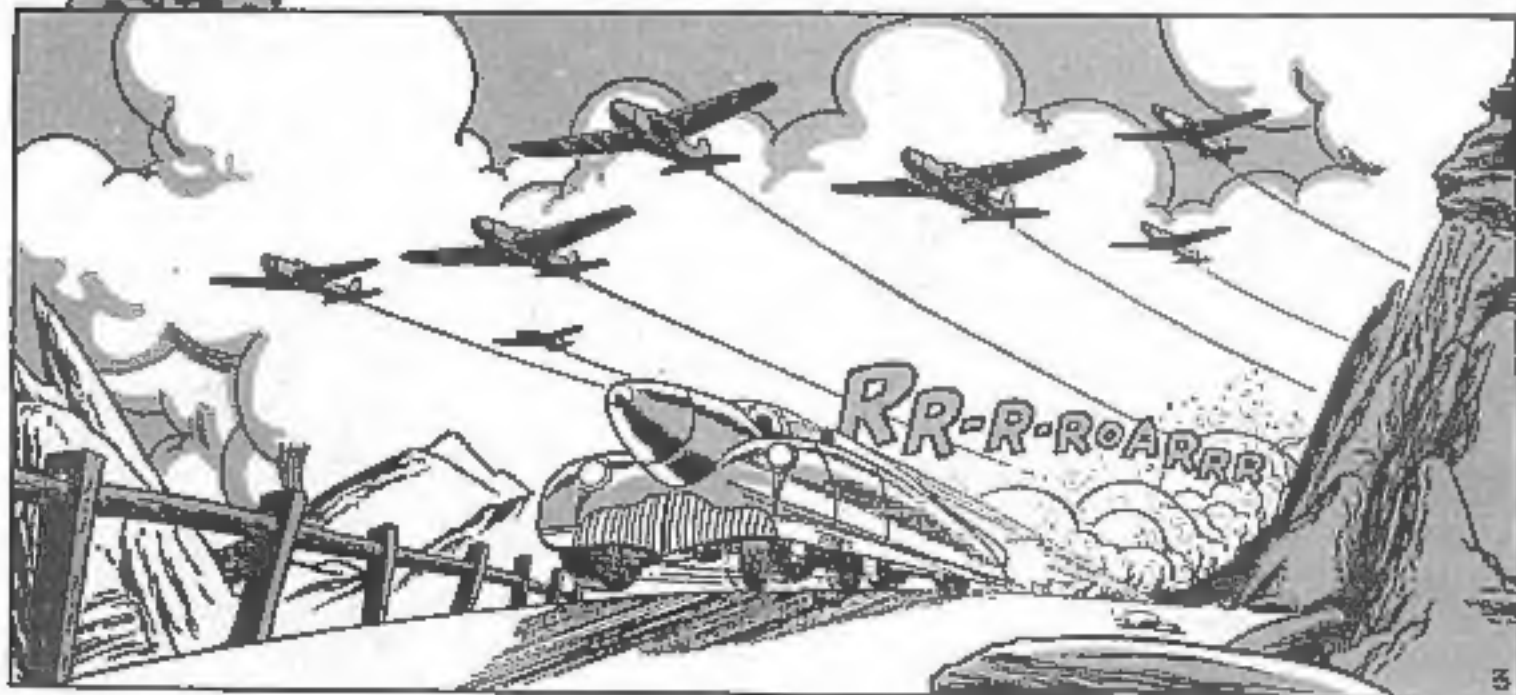
THE AMAZINGLY FAST JETMOBILE WAS BREATHTAKING IN ITS POSSIBILITIES! IN THE HANDS OF CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT, IT WAS A TOOL FOR SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS. BUT IN THE CUNNING GRASP OF IVAN SHARK, THE JETMOBILE BECAME AN UNMATCHED WEAPON FOR CRIME UNLIMITED! READ THIS THRILLING TALE OF AMERICA'S TOP INVENTOR BATTLING AMERICA'S TOP INVENTION!



Art by DAN BARRY



THE SECRET SQUADRON IS A BAND OF DARING EX-WAR ACES, WHO HAVE JOINED TOGETHER TO HELP THE CAPTAIN IN HIS CEASELESS FIGHT AGAINST CRIME!



LATER, AT THE NEVADA LABORATORY...

CHUCK! WE'RE BACK! THE SECRET SQUADRON OUGHT TO BE HERE SOON!

CAP'N ALBRIGHT! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU!



JOYCE AND I TRIED TO STOP THE SHARK, CAP, BUT HE HAD TOO MANY MEN FOR US!

IT'S ALLRIGHT, CHUCK. YOU DID YOUR BEST!



WE'VE GOT TO THINK OF A WAY OF RESCUING JOYCE RAMSEY AND GETTING BACK THE JETMOBILE!

LISTEN! THE RADIO...



SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN! WORD HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED THAT THE TRANSCONTINENTAL STREAMLINER, ARROW, WAS ROBBED OF A SHIPMENT OF CURRENCY BY IVAN SHARK. THE MASTER CRIMINAL ESCAPED—



MEANWHILE, IN CAPTAIN ALBRIGHT'S OTHER JETMOBILE...

HAH! THEY'LL NEVER CATCH US IN A MILLION YEARS, IN THIS CAR, SHARK...

AND THE BEAUTY OF IT, GARDO, IS THAT WE'RE SAFE FROM ALBRIGHT, AS LONG AS WE HAVE JOYCE RAMSEY IN OUR HIDE-OUT!

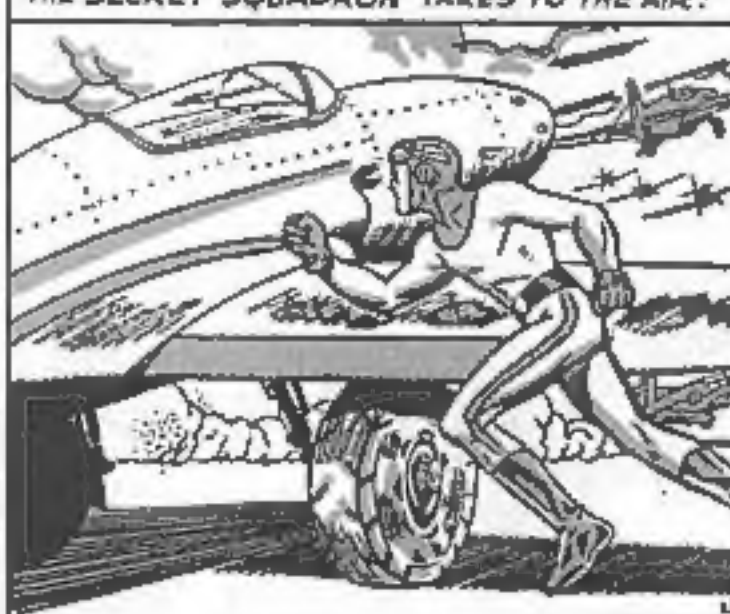


SAFE FROM ALBRIGHT, YES! BUT NOT FROM ALBRIGHT'S DYNAMIC OTHER PERSONALITY—CRIME-FIGHTING CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!!

MEN, JOYCE IS A CLEVER GIRL. IF THERE'S ANY WAY FOR HER TO GET WORD TO US, SHE'LL DO IT! MEANWHILE WE'LL START SEARCHING FOR HER!



THE SECRET SQUADRON TAKES TO THE AIR!



AS THE SECRET SQUADRON CRUISES, RADIOS ON THE ALERT... IVAN SHARK STRIKES AGAIN!



FILL THAT BAG AND LET'S GET MOVING, GARDO!

RIGHT WITH YA, SHARK!



MEANWHILE...

LISTEN TO THAT, CAP'N! IT'S ON YOUR SPECIAL WAVELENGTH!!



CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT! CAN YOU HEAR ME? CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT! I'M BEING HELD PRISONER! I'M IN A COAL MINE SOUTH OF—



IT'S JOYCE, ALLRIGHT! SHE'S GIVING US HER POSITION.

GOOD GIRL! I WAS HOPING SHE'D GET HER WRIST RADIO WORKING. LET'S GET MOVING!

BACK AT SHARK'S HIDE-OUT AS JOYCE COMPLETES HER MESSAGE...

WHAT'S THIS? YOU SENDING SOME KIND OF MESSAGE? I'LL FIX THAT!

HURRY, CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!





THAT'LL FIX YOU. NOW WE'LL JUST WAIT TILL **SHARK** AND **GARDO** GET BACK!



THAT MUST BE THEM NOW!



WRONG GUESS!

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU, FRIEND!

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!



LET ME FINISH THE JOB, CAP! I OWE THIS GUY SOMETHING!

OOOFF!

WHAM!



IT WAS YOUR MESSAGE THAT BROUGHT US HERE, **JOYCE**!

I KNOW. THEN THIS **OX** DISCOVERED MY WRIST RADIO AND TOOK IT AWAY, CAP!



WHAT NOW, CHIEF?

NOW - THE **KINGPIN IVAN SHARK**! HE DOESN'T KNOW WE'RE HERE, AND WE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO SURPRISE HIM!



CAP! CAP! THE **GUARD** WE KNOCKED OUT AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE TUNNEL. HE GOT AWAY! HE'LL PROBABLY WARN **IVAN SHARK**!

OH, OH! THEN WE'LL HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE NEVADA LAB, WHILE THE **SECRET SQUADRON** SEARCHES FOR SHARK. THE BEST WAY TO CATCH HIM NOW IS IN THE JETMOBILE!



OKAY, ICKY, LET'S GET BUSY, AND TUNE UP THE CAR.

YOU BET, CAP. WE'LL NEED EVERY OUNCE OF SPEED IT'S GOT!



THERE! TIGHT AS A DRUM AND RARING TO GO!

CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT!
SECRET AGENT X-7 ON THE SPECIAL WAVELENGTH!



HAVE JUST SIGHTED **IVAN SHARK** IN THE JETMOBILE, GOING SOUTH ON U.S. 1. HE HAD TOO MUCH SPEED FOR ME...

BUT NOT FOR ME! C'MON, ICKY!



U.S. 1. HERE WE COME!

GOOD LUCK, CAP!



BUT, AS **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT** STREAKS EAST AT BREAKNECK SPEED....

...**IVAN SHARK** CLEVERLY DOUBLES BACK AND HEADS FOR THE MIDWEST!







Captain Midnight's comic book career began in July of 1941 with issues 57-64 of the Dell title **THE FUNNIES** and in issues 76-78 of **POPULAR COMICS**. Stories were dull but were true to the radio version.

The Fawcett series started in September, 1942. Many changes were made to the character to make him more fantastic. The black flight suit was replaced with a much flashier red and blue costume. As Albright he invented incredible gizmos such as The Doombeam, the swing spring, the Sub Car, blackout bomb, the trouble suit and the glider chute all to aid Captain Midnight in his relentless fight against evil.

Whereas the original character was an aviator, Fawcett upgraded the aerial hero to interplanetary hero. Yes, in this series, Captain Midnight flew rockets into outer space! There he visited the planets and fought such out of this world adversaries as Jagga- the Space Raider and Xog- evil King of Saturn!

The regular illustrator for the series was Leonard Frank, often referred to as "the squinty artist" as a characteristic of his style was to have everyone squint. Jack Binder also drew early adventures and noted artist Mac Raboy drew some of the early covers (9-11, 13, 17, 18, 22, 23). Most of the covers were done by Carl Pfeuffer who did a splendid job

and would have been the perfect artist for the series. Initially the strip was written by Otto Binder.

The best art in the Fawcett books was by Dan Barry who illustrated the adventure appearing in this volume from **CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT** No. 57, 1947. This story was chosen because it represents many of the features of the radio series... Chuck, Joyce, Ikky, Ivan Shark and the Secret Squadron.

The Captain Midnight comic ran 67 issues, the last in 1948. He also appeared in **ALL HERO COMICS** No. 1 (1943) and in **AMERICA'S GREATEST COMICS** No. 8 (1943) guesting with Spy Smasher.